



Parents information evening: Working together to maximise student success.

Mrs. Froggatt – Head of Year 11.

Mr. Robinson – KS4 Manager.

Miss. Palmer – Deputy Headteacher.



School Focus 2016/17

- Increasing student performance across all areas of learning with the aim to:
 - Stretch and challenge.
 - Closing the gender gap.
 - Ensuring that a minimum of 65% of students achieve at least a grade 5 in both Maths and English at GCSE.
 - Challenging any underperformance.
- A whole school approach to writing.



Student Achievement 2016 Examination Performances

- **GCSE :**

- 73% 5+ A*-C (nb. Boys:69%; Girls:77%)

- 65% % A*-C including E & M (nb. Boys: 65%, Girls:64%)

- **AS level : 37% A-C**

- **A Level : 34% A*-C**





Grades at GCSE

- Mathematics and English – Number grades from 1 to 9
 - 4 equivalent to grade 'C'. (2017 only)
- All other subjects – Traditional A*-G grades



Interpreting Reports

- RAG rating
 - Green = above national expectation and on track to achieve aspirational target grade.
 - Yellow = on track to achieve national expected performance.
 - Red = not tracking to achieve national expectation.
- The process of learning
 - Plateauing
 - Consolidation
 - Acceleration
 - Regression

Year 11 Mathematics

- **We will:**
- Offer weekly Maths revision session for Y11 students. These sessions will look at specific topics and focus on consolidating the knowledge needed for the exam.
- Offer 3 x 3 hour Saturday morning sessions focusing on Grades 6-9.
- Regularly teaching the various strategies and then practising the problem solving skills needed for the exam in lessons.
- Do warm-up Maths sessions before the GCSE exams.
- Regular past paper practise throughout Year 11.
- Offer small group intervention for students identified as needing support.
- Provide regular feedback on topics that need further practise.

Students

Need to...

- Attend all after-school revision sessions.
- Participate in the 3 x 3 hour Maths session if you are targeted a Grade 6-9.
- Engage with homework assignments including past papers and complete all of the homework to a HIGH standard.
- Use the opportunities that are available to you: visit your Maths teacher if you are stuck.
- Bring all of their Maths equipment to every lesson: pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, pair of compasses, protractor and scientific calculator (2/3 papers in the new specification are calculator based).
- Arrive to intervention promptly and fully participate in the session.
- Check Show my homework and mymaths regularly.

Parents

Please would you:

- Ensure your child attends the after-school revision sessions every week (Wednesday, 3-4pm, Maths Department)- mini bus available!
- Encourage your child to go to the 3 x 3 hour Saturday morning sessions if they are targeted a Grade 6-9.
- Check that homework is fully completed to a high standard.
- Buy past paper packs and revision books.
- Support any small group intervention that we do.
- Check that your child has their Maths equipment with them each day and replace any missing Maths equipment.
- Check your emails for updates on revision sessions and intervention.

Year 11 English

The main changes/new skills needed for the new GCSEs:

- 100% of marks from the exam means that there is no coursework as a 'safety net' which has led to an increased focus on exam-style questions and exam practice in lessons.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar marks for GCSE English Language have gone up from 12% of the overall marks to 20%, necessitating an increased focus on accuracy and SPaG in lessons.
- Closed book exams in English Literature (texts can no longer be taken into the exams) mean that knowledge of the text needs to be even better than before and some quotations now have to be learnt.
- More of a focus on extract/passage-based questions in English Literature exams where the students are expected to write at length about a short section of the text - this is a change from the old style of essays which looked more generally at the text as a whole.

Students

Supporting students with these changes:

- 10 lessons of English every 2 weeks which gives enough time to focus on aspects of SPaG and exam practice in addition to covering the texts.
- Targeted lessons focusing on grammar (SPaG) and the higher skills now needed in extended writing which is only able to be developed in Year 11 due to student maturity.
- Revision sessions will be held in the lead-up to mock exams, over Easter and in the lead-up to the summer exams, in addition to after school support classes which will start the week beginning 19th September.
- 1-to-1 support for PP/FSM6 students.
- 1-to-1 or small group support during am registration.
- Access to revision guides/support materials, with some provided for students.



Attendance matters.

- Many pupils have an attendance rate of around **90%**. Most parents and pupils think that this is pretty good.
- If you have a **90%** attendance record, it means that you are absent from lessons for the equivalent of one half-day every week.
- A **90%** attendance rate means that you have missed the equivalent of four whole weeks of lessons in the school year.



Punctuality matters.

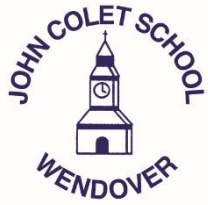
Minutes Late	Days lost across a school year
5	5
10	6.5
15	10
30	19





The consequences of this:

- 1 in 5 pupils miss 17 days a year- these pupils will drop at least ONE GCSE GRADE.
- 94% Attendance = Very good chance of achieving the government benchmark of % or more A*-C Grades.
- 90% Attendance = Less than 50% chance of achieving the government benchmark of % or more A*-C Grades.



Examination Entries and Performance:

- Performance over time.
- Mock examination result.
- Quality of controlled assessment / coursework.
- One tier - A*-G grades
 - Art, Child Development, Graphic Products, History, Music, Photography, Physical Education, Religious Studies, resistant Materials, Textiles,
- Tiered entry
 - Higher A*- D or 9-4
 - Foundation C-G or 5-1
 - English (2), French, German, Geography, Mathematics, Science, Spanish.



It's a marathon not a sprint.

- Focus on completing all homework or controlled assessment / coursework tasks by the deadline.
- Check 'show my homework' for deadlines – if you need log in details let us know.
- By creating a homework / revision timetable early this will enable you to plan your time better.
- Don't ban extra curricular activities – this is too important to help your child manage their stress.



Familiar?





Harnessing Connectivity





Apps.

- Reality is that students today live in a push button world – smart phone centric.
- How to embrace effectively for learning?
- Some ideas from our friends at Elevate....
- <http://uk.elevateeducation.com/news/parents/18-apps-a-student-shouldn-t-live-without>

Tips based on our 2015/16 experience

- Talk about your own and your child's expectations in terms of how much work they should be doing during the week and when the best time to do it is

Familiar?



Avoiding a 'War'

- Negotiate a set of '***Rules for Homework***' that you can both live with.
- Talk about whether combining homework or revision with music, social media, twitter etc... will help or hinder them.
- Be prepared to compromise.
- If it works their way – fine.
- Have a trial period and review of '***Rules for Homework***'

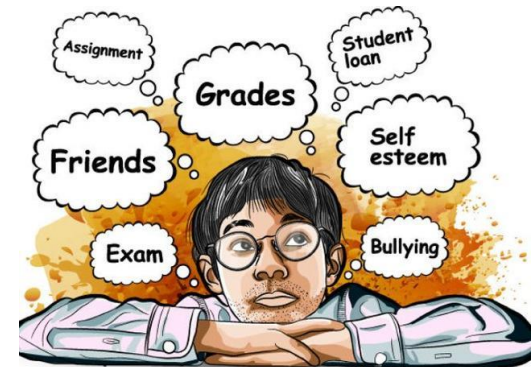
Final tips

- Agree regular 'check – in's where you agree to discuss progress in each subject.
- Try to avoid a situation where a progress report from school reveals any unwanted surprises.



Pressures and dealing with stress

- **Pressurised year** – Coursework demands and deadlines, high expectations, mock examinations.
- **Signs to look for and strategies**
 - Not sleeping or eating.
 - Working constantly and anxious about work.
 - Overly stroppy!
- **Help them manage the pressure.**
 - Talk things through.
 - Help them to set their own priorities.
 - Start coursework and revision.
 - Make sure that your son / daughter continues with their regular activities – all work and no play
 - Let us know.





How to help your child revise: A few reminders

- A little and often – never too early to start.
- Be organised – Files, timetable, plan.
 - All Departments run revision sessions – your child will be told about them in their lessons.
 - Past paper questions - they are available on the exam websites (along with the mark schemes).
 - Timed essays.
- Make topic summaries.
 - Spider Diagrams, mind maps, card indexes, bulleted lists, tables and colour coding your own understanding then checking.
 - Revision guides
- Make class books revision friendly.
- Useful Web Sites include the GCSE Bitesize.
- Turn off / time limit social media.



eat. sleep. revise. And repeat.



Dates for your diary.

- **Controlled Assessment**
 - September = History, Computing, Geography, Music
 - October = MFL, Science
 - November = Business Studies
- **Mock Exams**
 - Friday 2nd -9th December
 - 13th-16th December Art and Photography Mock Exam
- **Practical Exams**
 - March = Physical Education
 - April = Art, Photography, Drama
- **GCSE exams commence 15th May 2017**





What happens next?

- Next Step Interview with SLT.
 - Sixth Form.
 - A levels – 5A*-C including English and Mathematics
 - College.
 - Vocational Course – D grades in a minimum of Mathematics and English.
 - Apprenticeships – Dependent on the nature of the apprenticeship.

Higher Education.

- University – 3 A levels grade C or better
- Employment – As high a level of education as possible and organisational and leadership skills.